

*My thoughts and prayers go out to all those impacted by the tragic quake in Haiti, this is a tragedy of unspeakable magnitude. In official news reports of the devastation, experts and local officials can only estimate the number of lives lost in this quake. The estimates range anywhere from tens-of-thousands to perhaps more than 100,000 lost lives.*

*This is a time when the entire World needs to come together to support the Haitian people. This is a devastating loss, and I am happy that President Obama has offered all the support of the U. S. toward assisting Haitians during this difficult time.*

*Growing up in the Dominican Republic, Haiti was our neighboring country. This tragedy strikes very close to home for Dominicans throughout the World. In the coming days, my wife, Aurora, and I will be reaching out to local businesses and non-profit groups to help coordinate joint efforts to help all those impacted by these events.*

*I will also be scheduling meetings with local officials and community leaders over the next few days to organize an emergency food drive and other disaster support in response to this disaster. I ask all local residents of Passaic to come together to support the people of Haiti during their time of need.*

*If you or anyone you know want to assist in these efforts or want to support our disaster relief efforts by donating non-perishable foods or clothing, please contact the Mayor's Office in the City of Passaic at 973-365-5512.*